

Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ)



Environmental Justice Fact Sheet--*Small Grants*

Purpose

The Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ) established the EJ Small Grants Program in fiscal year (FY) 1994. The purpose of the Small Grants Program is to assist community-based/grassroots organizations and tribal governments that are working on local solutions to local environmental problems.

Accomplishments

In **FY 94**, the pilot program started with only \$500,000 and a limit of \$10,000 per award. Each region received \$50,000 and funded a total of 61 projects.

In **1995**, with additional funds provided by Congress, OEJ increased its small grants program budget to \$3,000,000 and increased individual award amounts up to \$20,000 each. The Agency awarded grants to over 170 recipients.

In **1996**, OEJ awarded \$2,800,000 to 152 grant recipients from across the country.

In **1997**, OEJ awarded 139 grants totaling \$2,700,000. A list of the grants and a brief description can be found on the Internet. The address is:

<http://es.epa.gov/oeca/oej/98grants.html>

In **1998**, the program continues to focus on awards to community-based organizations (i.e., grassroots groups, churches, or other non-profit

organizations) and federally recognized tribal governments that sponsor or plan to carry out projects to address local environmental justice issues. A total of \$2,491,500 was awarded. Of this, \$491,500 is exclusively for Superfund-related projects. A list of the 1998 recipients will soon be available on the Internet. Visit

<http://es.epa.gov/oeca/oej/98grants.html>

For More Information

If you would like more information about the OEJ Small Grants Program, please call the Office of Environmental Justice's 24-hour hotline (1-800-962-6215). The hotline's voice messaging system will provide you with a menu of commands - select the small grants option. Requested information can be either mailed or faxed to you.

The ***FY 99 EJ Small Grants Program Request for Pre-Applications*** (RFA) will be announced on or about December 1, 1998 and will close on or about March 12, 1999. Applications will be reviewed by each regional office. Awards will be made on or before September 1, 1999. Refer to the list on the reverse side for the specific addresses for submitting your proposal.

Audit of Program

During 1996 EPA's Inspector General audited the program. Some recommendations for improving the program include: 1) OEJ implementing regularly scheduled conference calls with coordinators to discuss small grant issues only; 2) standardizing the monitoring form and encouraging all regions to use it for each award; and 3) developing a method to monitor each grant, either with onsite visits or by conference call. The biggest weakness was in the monitoring. Most grantees were not contacted after the awards were made. OEJ continues to address these recommendations

and revised the Small Grants Program Policy to reflect the recommendations.

The EPA's national Office of Environmental Justice coordinates the small grants program. However, each of the regions has an Environmental Justice (EJ) Coordinator and EJ Grant Coordinator who are your primary contacts for information pertaining to the OEJ Small Grants Program.

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

Region 1 (ME, VT, NH, MA, CN, RI)

Jerry Ellis
One Congress Street
Boston, MA 02203
Phone: 617/565-9454
Fax: 617/565-3415

Pat O'Leary
Phone: 617/564-3834

Region 2 (NY, NJ, PR, VI)

290 Broadway, 26th Floor
New York, NY 10007
Melva Hayden
Phone: 212/637-5027
Fax: 212/637-5024

Natalie Loney
Phone: 212/637-3639

Region 3 (MD, DE, WV, VA, PA, DC)

Reginald Harris
841 Chestnut Building
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Phone: 215/566-2988
Fax: 215/566-2901

Mary Zielinski
Phone: 215/566-5415

Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)

Connie Raines
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303
Phone: 404/562-9671
Fax: 404/562-9664

Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)

Karla Johnson
77 West Jackson Blvd. (MC T-175)
Chicago, IL 60604-3507
Phone: 312/886-5993
Fax: 312/886-2737

Margaret Millard
Phone: 312/353-1440

Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)

Shirley Augurson
1445 Ross Ave, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733
Phone: 214/665-7401
Fax: 214/665-2118

Teresa Cooks
Phone: 214/665-8145

Region 7 (IA, KS, MO, NB)

Althea Moses
726 Minnesota Ave
Kansas City, KS 66101
Phone: 913/551-7649 or 1-800-223-0425
Fax: 913/551-7976

Region 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY)

Elisabeth Evans
999 18th Street, Suite 500
Denver, CO 80202-2405
Phone: 303/312-6053
Fax: 303/312-6558

Nancy Reish
Phone: 303/312-6040

Region 9 (CA, AZ, HI, NV, GM, AS)

75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
Fax: 415/744-1605
EJ Information Line: 415/744-1565

Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, WA)

Joyce Kelly
1200 Sixth Ave (MD-142)
Seattle, WA 98101
Phone: 206/553-4029
Fax: 206/553-6647

Susan Morales
Phone: 206/553-8580